



THE EDGE




WEATHER

TODAY



High 77
Low 52

SATURDAY



High 72
Low 49

FINAL EDITION

The spring 2009 Collegian staff would like to wish everyone good luck on finals and a safe, productive, fun summer! Go Cats!

Week-long break set for fall 2010

By Tyler Sharp
KANSAS STATE COLLEGIAN

K-State students, faculty and staff will see a change in their Thanksgiving breaks beginning in fall 2010.

That semester's academic calendar includes a full week of vacation for Thanksgiving instead of a three-day break, which has been the policy in recent years. Faculty Senate approved the change in policy in April 2008. Student Body President Dalton Henry, senior in agricultural economics and agricultural communications and journalism, said the change would be beneficial.

"When we looked at the old calendar, having that break split with a one-day fall break and three-day Thanksgiving break really hindered [students'] ability to go home either of those times," Henry said. "This new system should make it easier and more convenient for students."

The University Calendar Committee is responsible for setting the academic calendar. The committee consists of the university registrar, three Faculty Senate representatives and two students appointed by the student body president.

Kansas Board of Regents calendar policies state that an academic year must minimally consist of "... two

See **BREAK**, Page 10

Hydrant flowing begins

By Monica Castro
KANSAS STATE COLLEGIAN

Manhattan residents who notice flowing hydrants around town in the next few months should know the Manhattan Fire Department is working on maintaining the hydrants.

The department began flowing hydrants Wednesday and will continue until September.

Don Francis, deputy chief for the department, said this is done to check the amount of water in the hydrant and see if the valve on the hydrant has been shut off. This test indicates how fast water flows through the hydrant in gallons per minute, as well as pointing out any other problems that might occur with a hydrant.

Francis said the fire department flows hydrants throughout Manhattan because it is required by the Insurance Services Office, a company that rates fire departments.

"They grade our city to see if we are maintaining fire hydrants," Francis said. "We make sure that fire hydrants are painted and lubricated."

In addition to painting the hydrants, the fire department makes sure the hydrants have not been damaged.

See **HYDRANTS**, Page 10

Enjoying the ride



Jonathan Knight | COLLEGIAN

The K-State baseball team celebrates during its April 17 game against Missouri at Tointon Family Stadium. The Wildcats have enjoyed unprecedented success this season, rising to No. 10 in the latest Baseball America poll and preparing for NCAA Regional play.

Cats relish in success as regular season nears end

By Blake Thorson
KANSAS STATE COLLEGIAN

If the No. 10-ranked K-State baseball team is feeling any pressure from its highest national ranking ever and possible first NCAA regional tournament in school history, the Wildcats do a good job of hiding it. The team's hitters listened to Bob Marley as they had batting practice Thursday in the warm sun at Tointon Family Stadium.

However, the atmosphere might be a bit more intense tonight as the Cats (37-11-1, 12-7-1 Big 12 Conference) begin a pivotal three-game series against the Texas Tech Red Raiders (20-27, 9-12 Big 12) at Tointon Family Stadium. K-State is fresh off

consecutive series sweeps against Oklahoma State and Brigham Young and have won six games in a row. The series wins also included head coach Brad Hill's 600th career win, and the team set a school record for single-season wins with 36.

At the beginning of the season, few people would have predicted the Wildcats' impressive run through the Big 12 gauntlet as most pundits had K-State finishing in the bottom third of the conference.

However, Hill's squad, fresh off a rigorous off-season workout, bought into a system of playing hard for 27 outs, and it has paid major dividends this season. The Cats have exceeded expectations all season en route to a

record-breaking season and have all but secured a spot in a regional tournament for the first time in school history.

Hill attributes the team's steady success to their ability to stay at an even keel no matter the circumstance.

"I just think we haven't really changed a whole lot all year," Hill said. "I think we're playing with confidence, but I don't think it's been that much high or low all year and we need to stay that way and keep playing one game at a time."

Those here in Manhattan and around the country have taken notice of the Cats' stellar play. There have been rumblings of K-State being host to a regional if the team can emerge victorious in its final two regular-season series and

have a decent showing in the Big 12 Tournament.

Seats have even been added on the first-base side of the Wildcats' stadium to accommodate larger crowds in a potential regional setting. The Red Raider series is the final home series for K-State but the Cats are scheduled to host KU for one game on May 15 before heading to Lawrence for two more games with the Jayhawks.

As the season has unfolded, it has become clear to most that the Wildcats have stressed teamwork, always playing with energy and hustle. That team concept has carried over onto a pitching staff that had many question marks at the beginning of the

See **BASEBALL**, Page 6

Homeless face challenges with unusual demographics

By Whitney Hodgkin
KANSAS STATE COLLEGIAN

Manhattan is strictly neither a rural nor urban community; it is a college town located near a military base with an economy that has fared better than most during a national recession. For these reasons, residents in need of federal aid often slip through eligibility cracks and are left fighting homelessness from their front porch.

These people are not counted in nationwide homeless counts because they still have a roof over their head, said Mandy Chapman-Semple, executive director of the Manhattan Emergency Shelter. A Jan. 28 homeless count conducted by United Way Manhattan reported 11 individuals living without shelter and about 50 living in transi-

tional shelters in Manhattan, according to a Collegian article.

A homeless count is required for any community that receives funding from the Department of Housing and Urban Development, a federal entity developed to increase home ownership. However, such counts do not include individuals and families who must live with friends or family, often temporarily. Riley County has one of the highest costs of living in Kansas, Chapman-Semple said, because of its competitive rental market and low vacancy rate.

"When you're homeless in Manhattan, you're not sleeping on the street, you're maybe crashing at a friend's or relative's house, and the

See **HOMELESS**, Page 10



COURTESY PHOTO

Melisa Posey, junior in pre-law and women's studies, walks up to her front door with 3-year-old son Severin. Posey receives rental assistance through Section 8, which provides housing for low-income families.

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13 Scratches (out)

14 Anger

15 In the attic, maybe

17 Anger

18 At bat, so to speak

19 Seraglio group

20 Thick chunks

22 Be patient

24 Senate employee

25 Pirates

29 Luau music-maker

30 Conficker et al.

31 Extinct bird

32 Gives up hope

34 Urban pall

35 Pre-swan

36 "All in the Family" spin-off

37 Shackles

40 Have a perp coming

41 "Yeah, right!"

42 Runs a meeting with someone else

46 Gilpin of "Frasier"

47 Initial stake

48 Menagerie

49 Paradise

50 Indigent

51 Grown-up elver

DOWN

1 Dhahi preceder

2 Try the tea

3 Abduc-tees

4 Bosc and Bartlett

5 Related

6 Apiece

7 Fool

8 Proof-reader's finds

9 Depilatory brand

10 Eyeball

11 Appear

16 Brits' subway

19 Greet the

20 Tater

21 Baikal, for one

22 Fret

23 Weaponry

25 Form rings

26 Vaccinate

27 Crucifix

28 Parsley partner?

30 Witty ones

33 Short-necked seabird

34 Poet

36 "Real Time With Bill —"

37 Part of a Batsuit

38 Second-hand

39 Confla-gration

40 Prefix with plasm

42 Upper limit

43 Yoko of music

44 Shad delicacy

45 Scale member

Solution time: 25 mins.

ACES PEPP NEAR
NOAH ROE AXLE
NASA ONE ITEM
EXTRAS WEARS
PRETENDERS
FACET RED MAT
ERON JUS DEFFE
DOSE DUE BASTE
SUSPENDERS
S OINK PATENT
LIMP EGO ASIA
ACME TAX RACK
BEES SPY DUKE

Yesterday's answer 5-8

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12				13				14		
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5-8 CRYPTOQUIP

W WRSKW FJ S BWUINJF U TTP
UNSU USBJX UNJ XBWFXTZZ
TZ XTYQ ZQYWUX RWKNU
KJU ISPPJC S PJRTF SWC.
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THE PLANNER

The Graduate School announces the final oral defense of the doctoral dissertation of James Townsend at 2 p.m. today in Hale 401. The thesis topic is "Synthesis, Characterization and Application of N and C-Substituted Nickel Cyclam Catalysts in Hydrodehalogenation Reactions."

The Graduate School announces the final oral defense of the doctoral dissertation of Aifheli Ndou at 2 p.m. Monday in Throckmorton 2002. The thesis topic is "Interaction of Weed Emergence, Weed Density and Herbicide Rate in Soybean."

The Graduate School announces the final oral defense of the doctoral dissertation of Min Gui at 10

a.m. Tuesday in Rathbone 2064. The thesis topic is "Advanced Methods for Prediction of Animal-Related Outages in Overhead Distribution Systems."

The Graduate School announces the final oral defense of the doctoral dissertation of Pubudu Siyambalagoda Gamage at 8:30 a.m. Wednesday in Hale 114. The thesis topic is "Synthesis and Applications of Ruthenium(II) Quaterpyridinium Complexes and Poly-N-Isopropylacrylamide/ Acrylic Acid."

The Graduate School announces the final oral defense of the doctoral dissertation of Mark Smith at 10 a.m. Thursday in Cardwell 119. The thesis topic is "A Detector to Measure 9-Li Production

Rate in Liquid Scintillator at the Earth's Surface by Cosmogenic Muons."

The Graduate School announces the final oral defense of the doctoral dissertation of Emanuel Castro de Oliveira at 3 p.m. Thursday in Waters 329. The thesis topic is "Growth and Development in the Iberian Peninsula: Three Essays."

The Planner is the Collegian's bulletin board service. To place an item in the Planner, stop by Kedzie 116 and fill out a form or e-mail news editor Ann Conrad at news@spub.ksu.edu by 11 a.m. two days before it is to run. Some items might not appear because of space constraints but are guaranteed to appear on the day of the activity.

FOTOFOURUM PIC OF THE WEEK

Josh Sommerfeld, junior in civil engineering, submitted this photo. We selected it because the scene pictured is so peaceful and serene — just what we need during a crazy, hectic "dead week" before finals.



WANT TO SEE
YOUR PHOTO
ON PAGE 2?

To try to get your photo on Page 2, e-mail it to ksufotoforum@gmail.com. FotoFourum photos will be posted on kstatecollegian.com, and the best one of the week will be printed right here every Friday, space permitting. Don't forget the rules: no nudity, obscene gestures or text, and no product placement. Also, if you want, include information like your year and major, what's going on in the photo, when it was taken and even camera and lens information.



DAILY BLOTTER

To view the daily arrest report from the Riley County Police Department, go to the Collegian Web site, kstatecollegian.com.

CORRECTIONS
AND CLARIFICATIONS

If you see something that should be corrected or clarified, call news editor Ann Conrad at 785-532-6556 or e-mail news@spub.ksu.edu.

KANSAS STATE COLLEGIAN

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Justin display showcases textile design class projects

By Jacie Noel
KANSAS STATE COLLEGIAN

The Department of Apparel, Textiles and Interior Design is scheduled to present a display exhibit featuring projects by the Surface Design class starting Thursday. The exhibit, which will feature projects in display cases on the first and second floors of Justin Hall, will last until Sept. 10.

In Surface Design, students work with a series of processes and techniques to create their own projects, said Cosette Armstrong, graduate student in apparel, textiles and design.

“The idea behind the class is being exposed to a variety of techniques and then finding ones that complement our own design style,” Armstrong said.

Matt Kritis, graduate student in textile design, said the whole class was based on learning processes like all-over color dying and then applying them.

Armstrong and Kritis, along with two other graduate students, Erica Schrader and Andrea Kozar-Mendoza, will have two or three pieces each entered in the show.

Students created two projects during the semester – a yardage project and a final semester project. The yardage project featured pieces made with yards of fabric. Kritis said the goal for this project was to be able to repeat design and work with fabric.

For the final project, students were allowed to create anything including wall hangings, garments and many other different mediums.

Throughout the semester, some students created visual journals that also will be displayed. The visual journals are similar to written journals, but will feature pictures of projects and pieces by students.

Kritis said Surface Design has been a great class that pertained to his interests.

“It was right up my alley,” he said. “I got to learn about the procedures and see which ones I liked the best.”

An exhibit reception is scheduled for 11:30 a.m. Thursday and is open to the public.

Soil Judging Team earns Kansas House recognition for back-to-back national titles



COURTESY PHOTO
The K-State Soil Judging Team won the National Soil Judging Competition for the second year in a row. The group, including **Paul Hartley**, graduate student in agronomy and assistant coach (kneeling), posed with members of the Kansas legislature. From left to right are **Rep. Dan Kerschen**, R-Garden Plain; **Rep. Sydney Carlin**, D-Manhattan; **Stuart Watts**, sophomore in agronomy; **Kim Kerschen**, freshman in agronomy; **Kelsey McGie**, junior in milling science management; **Joshuah Klein**, junior in agronomy; **Timothy Foster**, freshman in agronomy; **Mickey Ransom**, professor of agronomy and head coach; and **Sen. Tom Hawk**, D-Manhattan.

By Elise Podhajsky
KANSAS STATE COLLEGIAN

The University of Kansas men’s basketball national championship trophy is no longer the only award on display in the Kansas House of Representatives.

The K-State Soil Judging Team won the National Soil Judging Competition for the second year in a row in April and its trophy now resides in the House as well.

“Our trophy is slightly bigger,” said Mickey Ransom, K-State Soil Judging Team coach and professor of agronomy.

The team was honored by the House Tuesday for its outstanding work and accomplishment in the competition.

Ransom said the team was presented to

the House from the Speaker’s desk and was recognized for winning back-to-back national championships as their meeting began.

Kansas Rep. Dan Kerschen – whose daughter, Kim, freshman in agronomy, is on the team – organized the honor along with Sen. Tom Hawk and Rep. Sydney Carlin, who both represent Manhattan.

“It was very impressive,” Ransom said. “It was really an honor for the team to do this.”

The competition took place in Springfield, Mo., this year and featured 23 teams.

Ransom said the competition involved teams evaluating different soils for their properties, colors, textures and structures in a 6-foot-deep soil pit. He said competitors also were required to determine how the soils

could be used, e.g., to build a house with a basement.

“We had practices once a week for the whole year and then spent a full week, all-day in the pits [in preparation],” Kim said. “It was hard work, but it definitely paid off.”

The competition involved both individual and team soil judging. Ransom said though K-State did well in the individual categories, the group really shined in the team category.

“This year, the team judging was really what we excelled at,” Ransom said. “It is probably the reason why we won.”

Since K-State started participating in the contest in 1961, the team had never won a national competition until last year. To boast two back-to-back national wins is “truly an honor,” Ransom said.

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KANSAS STATE COLLEGIAN

Alive and kicking

‘Dead week’ an essential oxymoron for any semester



MOLLY HAMM

Another dead week has come and gone and, with each passing semester, hopes and dreams of a changed dead week policy are crushed by stacks of paper and unwieldy textbooks. Each semester, students loudly bear the cross of this loathed time of year, suffering illusions that a week without commitments, classes or deadlines will somehow better prepare them for finals they should have been preparing for all year. *Facebook.com* status updates reflect countdowns of pages unwritten, papers uncompleted, projects unfinished and tests yet to be taken.

Dead week is aptly named – while campus activity certainly is not “dead” in the sense that students might wish, students take it upon themselves to dress for the occasion. In our best struggling-to-survive ensemble, we sit in lack-luster classrooms where teachers could not spark a classroom discussion even if they bribed us with lattes and double-shots of espresso. Looking for a computer in the library? Not an empty seat in the house. Printing that 10-page final paper can be difficult with only 15 cents left on your card. Invitations to hang out with friends are sadly turned down as we sift through a pile of study snacks under an incandescent desk lamp (no time to save the environment – 150 pages of reading to catch up on!).

And yet we fool ourselves every semester into placing the blame on our professors. “Don’t they know we are enrolled in other classes?!” we proclaim, indignantly unfurling our protest banners in front of a blind crowd.

“This simply isn’t fair! I, like, totally have more to do than you!” we say, as we compare schedules with friends and classmates. We breathe a sigh of relief as the week comes to a close, only to be blindsided by the finals that were a long time coming.

I, too, am a victim of dead week. Loss of motivation? Check. Irritable demeanor? Check. Irrational pointing of fingers at anyone but myself? Check. But when the fraying ball of stress inside my stomach begins to unravel, I find myself wondering: What other choice do I have but to reap what I’ve sown?

If we stopped all activity for an arbitrary “dead week” – no assignments, tests, meetings, projects, deadlines or classes, when would this work get done? And wouldn’t this “hell week” just be pushed back one more time, a week closer to all the other obligations we have been trying to meet all year? Or spread out densely throughout the year when we have more responsibilities like jobs, weekly meetings and nights out to juggle?

In all honesty, the concentrated stress of what we know as dead week might seem unreasonable while we are at the mercy of its jaws, but I think if I had the choice, I wouldn’t change a thing. So I bid thee well, dead week ... until next time.

Molly Hamm is a senior in English education. Please send comments to opinion@pub.ksu.edu.



Illustration by Aaron Frondorf | COLLEGIAN

Save the economy: A comprehensive plan for recovery



DREW MORRIS

As our economy is run into the ground, the American people are grasping at straws. As luck would have it, a solution has presented itself.

The people who receive the bailout funds (only to spend them on their own gluttony) are those I call to national service. Far too long has this minority controlled the money of the majority. This is a moral country, a country of the people, and we will not let such an atrocity stand!

The real estate “flippers,” the car company CEOs, bankers with new Lamborghinis and supposedly bankrupt companies all argue for the need of government

intervention. Little do they know they are part of the solution.

These people should work off their debt to society through indentured servitude. Separating these high and mighty folks from their embellished salaries and relocating them closer to hardworking Americans might help refocus their moral compasses. It will also offer many job openings in high-paying jobs, effectively lowering the unemployment rate.

What should we have these highly educated, successful people do? Only the most important jobs in the infrastructure of this country are suitable for such an able work force. Their jobs should reflect their advantageous business decisions.

The real estate agents who bought houses to turn a profit should apply the same tactics on a less grandiose scale by renovating lower-income neighborhoods to put some life back in the housing market. These indentured workers will reach completion of their term the moment every American has a home to live in.

American car company CEOs should be reassigned to factory jobs assembling foreign cars. They should be forced to make cars that meet the desires and needs of the consumer. They will also donate their salaries to the research and development departments of said companies, specifically for work on environmental is-

sues. Their service should end just as soon as carbon emissions from vehicles in the U.S. are eliminated.

The bankers present a more complex problem, for if we remove them from their current positions, the crisis could last longer. Instead of firing them, they should remain as advisers to the new wave of bankers – but without salaries. Their volunteer work, however, will count as a tax deduction, and the government will provide food stamps. Any gifts or bonuses received by these community service providers will be donated to a government-appointed charity. When there is no more suffering in the U.S., the bankers will be released from their indenture.

Removing these people from their current well-paid positions will open up a lot of job positions, allowing promotions, which will therefore open up entry-level positions. It will facilitate a recalibration in the moral compass of America and help solve the current economic dilemma. The only thing it will really damage is these hot shots’ egos, but universal psychiatric care will be available upon completion of service.

Drew Morris is a senior in English. Please send comments to opinion@pub.ksu.edu.

THE FOURUM 785-395-4444

The Campus Fourum is the Collegian’s anonymous call-in system. The Fourum is edited to eliminate vulgar, racist, obscene and libelous comments. The comments are not the opinion of the Collegian nor are they endorsed by the editorial staff.

I thought someone was wolf-whistling at me, but then I realized it was just a bird.

Longboarder boy, I like your pants.

A police officer just cut me off, and I almost ran into him, and it would have been his fault.

To the guy who set up the hammock in the Goodnow front lawn: You are my hero.

What bugs me the most is when sorority girls come to the library with a bunch of food, but it’s only the second time they’ve been there — last finals week and this one.

To the sorority girls with Sonic in the library: Please share.

Some girls just shouldn’t wear those Softe shorts.

Cole, Kevin, Katie and Erica, I love you.

That is all.

What’s up with all the grapefruit?

I’m graduating in a week, and I still haven’t made out in the stacks.

Jardine smells like laundry detergent and Cheerios.

Dear Fourum, I said “say meow right meow.”

No.

To the folks that beep their car horn outside of Putnum: Thanks. That woke me up.

It should be illegal to enjoy freshman orientation this much.

To the couple having sex at the stop light: Get off each other.

Lydia, stop not participating in this call.

The little 1 a.m. celebration of Carp Day was not amusing.

So, as I sit here in Moore Hall eating a Hot Pocket and watching “Law and Order,” I think to myself: Is that a frat house or an apartment that got busted? There’s too many lights for that possibly to be an apartment.

The guy that plays second base for Council Grove High School, I love him. I

really do.

What is it like to be a devil fish?

I had gin and tonic for the first time tonight. And now I’m trying to go to sleep. And every time I close my eyes everything spins. Good night.

Somebody told me that if you always go to class wasted, you have to take the final wasted. I think I need to get wasted.

Why does my roommate think it’s OK for her to put her stuff on my dresser?

Damn you, five-star difficulty level Sudokus! I can’t beat you, and you ruined my morning.

Snappy Joe Snoo Dogg.

Yes, Kyle, my roommate is an alcoholic.

It’s not even 10 yet, and I’m sweating.

To the wonderful lady in the Derb who got the chocolate sauce for the strawberries: You have my undying gratitude — it was delicious. Thank you.



Check out our Web site for the rest of today’s Fourum.

POETRY

A few admonitions

By Steven Miller
KANSAS STATE COLLEGIAN

Whether you are graduating or simply remaining we all could use some admonitions like, Beware of Graduate Admissions. They’ll rake your GPA over the coals and find all those syntactical lulls in your Letter of Intent, twisting and untwisting all you meant. Furthermore, Beware of employers – those sadist voyeurs, who get their jollies over your work-a-day follies. They enjoy best your worst mistakes and so I urge you, for God’s sake avoid them like the plague. This all might sound a little vague, and so to be specific for my annoyed reader: Beware of being unemployed! There is absolutely nothing like a month and a half of nothing, of eating too many Cheetos and double-stuffed triple-decked Oreos to deteriorate the mind’s ambition and wreck the body’s condition. So stay an undergrad all your life to avoid sadists, sorrow, strife!

KANSAS STATE COLLEGIAN

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KANSAS STATE COLLEGIAN
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THE EDGE

Getting to know you

Nontraditional spots for meeting people abound in Manhattan

If you're staying in Manhattan during the summer, you might find yourself noticing a severe student drought. Campus, Peters Recreation Complex and even Aggieville will seem to become desolate and dull after finals have ended and the majority of students have vacated the premises. However, there is no need to stress out about impending loneliness. Here is a list of unlikely local hot spots which won't leave you high and dry even on the hottest summer day.



ERIN FLAHARTY

BEACH MUSEUM OF ART

The greatest thing about meeting someone at the Mariana Kistler Beach Museum of Art is that you do not have to begin at ground zero and build up from scratch. The pressures of beginning and maintaining any form of conversation are relieved because the topic is built into the event. All you have to do is simply look at any piece of art in any form and say, "So what do you think of this?" and then also share your opinion.

The more varied your interpretations are from one another's, the more interesting the explanations that will inevitably follow. Should this conversation run stale, take three steps in any direction and begin again.

This form of pick-up also offers two advantages. First, it provides rapid and real insight into the person you're interested in. It is a well-known fact that small talk usually yields little information about anyone's passions, level of intellect or even general outlook on life; therefore, it usually takes several dates to even know enough about the person you're seeing to determine if you like each other.

Secondly, when picking up someone at a museum, it is completely acceptable behavior to walk away from the other person at any break in conversation. I know it sounds harsh, but let's face it: At some point, we all have begun a conversation only to learn a few moments too late that you are both trapped and disinterested.

Because offering people space is an accepted practice at a museum, should you decide you are not interested in someone, moving away is a discreet but effective maneuver that eliminates any awkward letdowns. This practice also allows any awkward pauses to be glossed over. You can always meet up with them again at the next piece when you think of something clever to say.

CROW'S NEST, ACME GIFTS, SISTERS OF SOUND, DUSTY BOOKSHELF, BIG POPPI BICYCLE CO., GAME STOP

In a similar vein, shopping offers a low-pressure environment in which to begin a conversation with a prospective interest. You already have one common interest to bond with and use to provide conversation; be it your taste in music, comics, mov-

ies or novelty gifts, you already have something to share and enjoy together. Should things go well, the opening to a second meeting is built right in. The more specific your interests, the more likely you are to find someone you have something in common with.

CITY PARK

This is perfect for the more active individuals or those just trying to get outside and take in the summer heat. City Park allows you to invite or join complete strangers in a game of Frisbee, a tennis match, a walk or a nostalgic moment on the jungle gym. After all, you might legally be an adult, but there's no shame in still loving the swing set. The best part about City Park is if you are simply present, you have the opportunity to meet someone, and there are unlimited reasons to go.

BOWLING IN THE K-STATE STUDENT UNION

Bowling can be a really easy way to meet new people. Even if you do not hit it off romantically in this relaxed setting, it is difficult to walk away without at least becoming friends.

Most people know bowling is traditionally a group activity, so for this to be effective, you should show up with at least one friend. However, this actually is more of a help than a hindrance to those who weren't born with the game for several reasons.

First, a bowling alley has almost no romantic aura to it, so everyone can just focus on having fun. Second, conversation is overrated here. Sometimes it is easier to learn about each other gradually than in condensed conversations laced with depth. Finally, should things become awkward, you have friends present to make you look good and fill in silences. This is also one of the few acceptable arenas where you can immediately begin cheering and teasing one another without coming off as annoying.

TOINTON FAMILY STADIUM

This actually applies to any summer spectator sporting event you like. You can show your Wildcat pride while enjoying a hot dog and a beer with a new purple-clad hottie. If you love baseball, this is your opportunity to impress others with your knowledge of the team and the game. If you haven't been following the season – or any one prior to this – you can always ask those around you to share their insight in exchange for a drink.

TUTTLE CREEK STATE PARK

Tuttle Creek is one of the more difficult places to meet new people; however, with the emergence of summer, it does have the possibility of being the most fun. Whether you are the outdoors-y type who likes camping, biking, jet skiing and volleyball or the more laid back type who prefers bonfires, faux beach-bumming and tanning, you have the ideal opportunity to take in the sunshine and meet someone new.

Erin Flaherty is a senior in pre-law. Please send comments to edge@pub.ksu.edu.



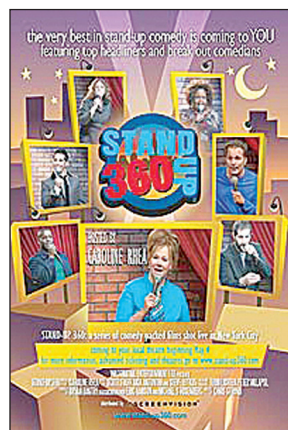
Students who are in Manhattan during the summer can meet new people while dancing, exploring common interests or spending time in City Park.

COLLEGIAN FILE PHOTOS

MOVIES IN MANHATTAN THIS WEEKEND



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"STAND-UP 360
EPISODE 1"



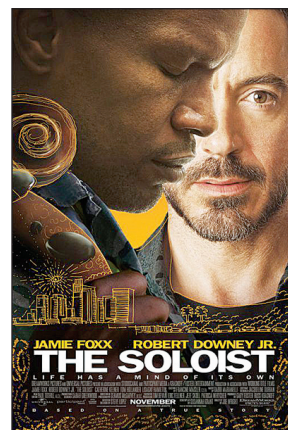
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KANSAS STATE COLLEGIAN

TRACK

Top of the heap



Jonathan Knight | COLLEGIAN

Scott Sellers clears the bar for the Wildcats at an April 2008 meet. The senior has earned seven All-America honors and will look to win his eighth in June, which would be a K-State record. Sellers was an alternate for the 2008 Olympic Games and said he hopes to continue his career at the world championships or future Olympics.

Sellers’ consistency key to stellar high-jumping career, continued success

By Justin Nutter
KANSAS STATE COLLEGIAN

Before his collegiate career even began, Scott Sellers made his mark in the world of track and field.

He was a three-time All-American at Cinco Ranch High School in Katy, Texas. He set the Texas 5A state record in his event. In 2005 – his senior year – Sellers was named the National Indoor Athlete of the Year.

“I’m proud of my consistency when I was younger,” said Sellers, now a K-State senior. “Every meet, I was over seven feet. If someone was going to beat me, they would have to jump at least seven feet. That’s pretty rare in high school, and I think that’s what I’m most proud of.”

While the Wildcat senior might have excelled in athlet-

ics during his childhood, Sellers said sports were not a large part of his family.

“My parents played around a little bit in high school,” he said. “My dad played baseball, and my mom actually did karate, but other than that, there haven’t been any real successful athletes in my family so far. I played basketball when I was younger, but once I started track, I kind of started focusing on that.”

After Sellers established himself as arguably the best high-school high-jumper in the country, he was faced with a decision: Where would he continue his already dominant career? With a resume that featured two national records, three state championships and countless others at national meets, he could have gone anywhere in the country. He chose K-State.

“There are a lot of good traditions and good track schools in Texas, but none of them really has the same tradition as K-State when it comes to the high jump,” he said. “I knew that was going to be my specialty in college, and that’s where I had the most potential to excel, so K-State was head and shoulders above everyone else.”

Four years later, Sellers’ accomplishments speak for themselves. He has captured a pair of NCAA Championships – once at the 2007 outdoor competition and once at the 2009 indoor competition. Throughout his career, he’s had seven opportunities to earn All-America honors. Seven times, he’s succeeded.

Head coach Cliff Rovelto said he thinks Sellers will raise that total to eight at the 2009 outdoor championships

in June – a feat that has never been accomplished in school history.

“We’ve had track here at K-State for over a hundred years and it’s never happened where there’s been someone in one event that’s been an All-American eight times,” Rovelto said. “I don’t know what else needs to be said. That’s pretty impressive to just be at that level.”

Just as he did before his days in Manhattan, Sellers has taken pride in his consistent success at K-State. He has been especially strong in the postseason, earning a total of five top-three finishes in national meets, as well as three Big 12 championships.

Rovelto, in his 20th year as a coach at K-State, said Sellers’ ability to stay strong late in the season is what has set him apart from the field during his

collegiate career.

“It’s really about who gets it done on the days that are most important,” he said. “There have been very few meets, whether it’s a conference championship or a national championship, where he hasn’t jumped his best of the year. That’s hard to do and I think that speaks volumes for him.”

Though Sellers’ Wildcat career will come to an end at the conclusion of the outdoor campaign, the 2008 Olympic alternate hopes to continue his trend of excellence beyond the collegiate level.

“There are a lot of opportunities, whether it be going to world championship meets or the Olympic Games,” he said. “I’d like to keep jumping as long as I can be competitive with the best guys. I think I still have a lot of room to improve.”

BASEBALL | Balanced line-up vital

Continued from Page 1

season.

Junior ace A.J. Morris has been phenomenal for the Cats and leads the nation in wins with 11 and the Big 12 in ERA at 1.29. Morris will take the mound for the Cats tonight against the Red Raiders.

Seniors Lance Hoge and Todd Vogel have also been consistent members of the Wildcat rotation while sophomore Thomas Rooke and freshman James Allen have anchored the bullpen. Starters Ryan Daniel and Kayvon Bahramzadeh have also contributed quality innings from the back end of a rotation that ranks second in the Big 12 in team ERA.

“The big thing [the pitchers] have done is just staying with what they are doing and throwing strikes and believing in themselves,” Hill said. “Obviously we haven’t walked many people too and that’s a big part of our philosophy.”

At the plate, the Wildcats have epitomized balance as it seems a different part of the order steps up every night. This has contributed to the Cats team batting average of .326, which ranks only .01 behind Oklahoma for tops in the conference.

“One of our mottos is, ‘Leave it up to the next guy and don’t try to do too much,’” senior shortstop Drew Biery said. “We have nine guys in our lineup that are capable of getting the hit when we need it, and it takes a bunch of the pressure off at the plate.”

This philosophy has worked as the Cats have six hitters with more than 40 RBI on the season. The balance is also evident when looking at individual categories as K-State has a different leader in numerous cate-

gories and many players find themselves in the top 10 in the conference.

Sophomore second baseman Carter Jurica has had an excellent campaign and ranks in the top five in the Big 12 in batting average, hits, runs scored and stolen bases. Junior first baseman Justin Bloxom also ranks in the top 10 at .364, while sophomore third baseman Jason King is tied for second in RBI with 53 and ranks third in doubles with 16.

Senior outfielder Jordan Cruz leads the team in home runs with 11 while Biery has the highest slugging percentage. Senior outfielder Dane Yelovich and Jurica share the team lead in stolen bases with 21.

Contributions of players like freshman outfielder Nick Martini, senior catcher Rob Vaughn and junior designated hitter Adam Muenster are also important. Martini, a true freshman, has yet to make an error in left field and has hit out of the No. 3 spot for most of the year and has been very productive.

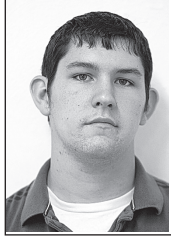
Vaughn provides excellent leadership behind the plate and has handled the staff beautifully. Muenster has batted leadoff for the majority of the season and does a great job setting the table as he leads the team in walks.

The 2009 K-State baseball season will certainly be one to remember for players and fans, with Biery saying this is “absolutely” the most fun he has had playing baseball.

First pitch is scheduled for 6:30 p.m. tonight. It is Triple Play Weekend at the ballpark with a pregame tailgate, pep band performance and first pitch from Incoming President Kirk Schulz. Live statistics can be found at www.kstatesports.com.

Spring game efforts receive recognition through Berkies

Funds have increased since the Steve Berklund Berkies were handed out toward the end of basketball season. With the financial increase, the Berkies has decided to give football awards after the annual spring game Saturday.



STEVE BERKLUND

Let’s recap for those who did not get to read about the Berkies during basketball season.

What are the Berkies, you ask? Well, the Berkies are the most sought after acknowledgment in all of sports. Don’t get me wrong – those other awards like the Wooden, the Heisman and the ESPY’s are all decent awards – but if you ask me, I’d tell you I would rather have a Steve Berklund Berkie.

All right, if the Berkies are so great, what are the qualifications for winning a Berkie? Well, when the awards were first given out, they were only given to K-State men’s basketball players. Now that finances have increased, we on the panel – me – have decided the Berkies should also be given out to K-State football players and staff.

After much discussion,

we the panel (I) have come up with several awards that we (I) think would be great awards to hand out.

During Bill Snyder’s first spring game back since his retirement in 2005, a lot of players proved themselves worthy of winning a Berkie, so for the first football Berkies, here we go.

Offensive player of the year goes to none other than Brandon “speed demon” Banks for what he showed during the 2008 season and his 114-yard receiving in the spring game.

Best quarterback has to go to Carson Coffman for his 334-yard, three-touchdown performance after many K-State fans had doubts about the quarterback position after Josh Freeman’s departure.

Best tight end was a toss-up, as both Travis Tannahill and Jeron Mastrud played well, but senior Mastrud wins it. Mastrud is going to be a four-year starter this fall and has proven himself in a K-State uniform.

Best offensive lineman could go to any of the five starting linemen, so that’s why we are giving out five Berkies to the five starting linemen: Nick Stringer, Brock Unruh, Wade Weibert, Colton Freeze and Clyde Aufner.

Best wide receiver goes to the obvious choice, Banks. Enough said.

It was harder to choose winners for the defense than the offense since the entire starting defense played solidly. The front four is scary good with Brandon Harold, Jeffrey Fitzgerald, Daniel Calvin and Eric Childs. They’re so scary, in fact, that all four win the best defensive lineman award and most valuable defensive player award.

Best linebacker goes to Alex Hrebec for his 19-tackle performance.

Best sideline cord holder goes to Clint Wilson for his work holding the coaches’ cords during games.

Best defensive back goes to Josh Moore, who can cover anyone in the nation.

Best ‘ball hawk’ award goes to the guy who just always finds the football, and that’s Courtney Herndon. Herndon once again found the football during the spring game, intercepting a pass.

Best coach goes to the future Hall of Famer and K-State legend Bill Snyder. The name speaks for itself.

There you have it folks. The first annual football Berkies are in the books. Good luck this fall, gentlemen, and get us back to a bowl game.

Steve Berklund is a junior in mass communications. Please send comments to sports@pub.ksu.edu.

Students choose abstinence for religious, health reasons

By Shane Bishop
KANSAS STATE COLLEGIAN

On college campuses nationwide, casual sexual encounters are commonplace. Propagated by social pressures, there is often a feeling of normalcy, as it is less taboo than it might be in hometown high schools.

But according to Jonathan Liggett, psychology intern at K-State Counseling Services, sexual promiscuity can lead to unforeseen consequences.

“With college students, casual sex a lot of times is mitigated by a lot of other circumstances,” Liggett said. “A lot of time sex isn’t just sex, it’s because someone wants to forget something. Students have sex for a lot of different reasons, and in some of those instances it is not safe sex and in fact very dangerous. ... There can be emotional consequences when factors aren’t considered that go into it”

A K-State alumna who wished to remain anonymous agreed with Liggett and said her impulsiveness as a freshman still bothers her years later.

“I ended up with HPV,” she said. “It was very hard to deal with. When I was looking up information about it, I read that one in five college stu-

dents carry some kind of STD. That was so shocking to me. [STDs] are so common and spread easily because people have no idea they have one.”

The alumna also said she learned the hard way that condoms don’t protect exposed areas, which was how she contracted HPV.

Aside from the physical repercussions, research shows women can be profoundly affected when having random sexual partners.

A 2008 study titled “Hookups and Regrets amongst College Women,” published in The Journal of Social Psychology, surveyed 152 female participants in a human sexuality course at a mid-sized Midwestern university.

The women completed a questionnaire, and according to the results, 78 percent of the respondents regretted previous sexual decisions.

The report’s authors also wrote, “For females, as the number of sexual partners increased, symptoms of depression also increased. Female participants who had the greatest number of partners had the highest symptoms of depressive pathology.”

Joseph Healey, senior in history, said casual sex is generally embraced in

college despite its lingering effects. But for him, he said, abstinence is a choice with no regrets.

“For me personally, the importance of sex within a relationship can be overwhelming and really not something to take lightly,” Healey said. “Entering into a relationship with someone that you might want to be with forever – sex is the last step.”

Choosing not to wait now can even lead to marriage problems later in life, according to Donald Joy, a marriage counselor. Joy said he has found in his research that the pain in faulty marriages is usually rooted in former promiscuity.

“The experience of casual sexual intimacy early in life produces memories that can contaminate future relationships and create lingering problems later on, when the person eventually marries,” he said.

Though sex is prevalent in today’s pop culture, many people – including K-State students – still say they consider abstinence to be a worthwhile lifestyle choice.

Finance major remains popular

By Tim Schrag
KANSAS STATE COLLEGIAN

A national recession has led to uncertainty in the job market for students fresh out of college, which can often result in fluctuation in the popularity of particular majors offered on college campuses.

Pat Bosco, vice president of student life and dean of students, said there has been a drop in the number of students expressing specific interest in business, but not in related areas of business like agribusiness and personal finance.

“Areas that were hot in 2004 aren’t necessarily cutting edge today,” Bosco said. “That is true throughout any economic cycle; however, there is no reason for despair.”

Many college campuses across the nation have noticed a drop in the number of students interested in business courses, particularly in finance. However, this is not the case for K-State’s College of Business Administration.

Eric Higgins, associate professor and department head of finance, said he has noticed no major dips in the number of students enrolled as finance majors within the college.

Higgins also said the number of students enrolling for the fall semester is what he anticipated.

“In terms of our existing students, I’ve seen no change,” Higgins said. “Generally I’m not worried about less people picking finance. The industry is changing, but there are still going to be plenty of jobs in that industry.”

Typically, students don’t declare a specific major within the College of Business Administration until their junior year; instead they are labeled as pre-professional business administration.


Yar Ebadi, dean of the College of Business Administration, said the number of students enrolled in the finance major is fairly stable.

“Specifically in terms of finance majors – this current semester of spring

NUMBER OF STUDENTS ENROLLED IN THE FINANCE MAJOR:
Spring 2009 — 296
Spring 2008 — 308
Spring 2007 — 265
Spring 2006 — 298

2009 compared to spring 2008 – spring 2009 is a little smaller by just a few students, but in fall of ‘08 the enrollment in finance was higher than the fall of ‘07,” Ebadi said. “Really there has not been a significant change that would concern us.”

“Certainly I worry about the economy affecting the college of business in a variety of ways. One would be the state budget cuts, the other would be on the private side. The college receives significant private support from donors and alumni and when the economic environment is as challenging as it is now, those supports will be reduced and that will impact our programs.”



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Rezoning results in more apartments east of campus

By Tyler Sharp
KANSAS STATE COLLEGIAN

The makeover continues for a local neighborhood after changes in zoning.

The neighborhood, which stretches east of Manhattan Avenue from Claflin Road south to Osage Street, was rezoned over the span of several months in 2003 to become a Multi-Family Redevelopment Overlay District. The M-FRO district allows for increased development of high-density housing, such as multi-plexes and apartment buildings, instead of limiting development to the single-family residences that previously characterized the neighborhood. The city commission gave final approval on the request, which originated with public comments at a planning board meeting in 2001.

Since the neighborhood was rezoned to be a M-FRO district, 25 new structures have begun or completed construction. Included within those 25 structures are eight 12-unit apartments, six four-unit townhomes and three duplexes. Cam Moeller, long-range planner for the City of Manhattan's Department of Community Development, said the pace of development has been steady.

"It hasn't slowed down," he said. "I think we have one application in right now that we are reviewing and working with the applicant. The interest seems to be ongoing."

Moeller said prior to the re-zoning, higher-density student housing was spread among largely residential neighborhoods east of campus.

Continued development of this type of housing elicited a response from residents who wanted to protect the integrity of the single-family-home neighborhood.

"There was a pretty strong request amongst the different neighborhood groups within these areas that the city somehow try to protect these areas where we still had a lot of families living," he said.

In response to these requests, the Department of Community Development found a solution.

"The way we ended up moving was down-zoning some of the areas that were further away from campus to a lower-density zone, preserving the single family character, and then shifting the higher-density zoning within walking distance of campus," Moeller said. "There was

an understanding that this area east of campus was going to redevelop and redevelop at a higher density than before while preserving these outlying neighborhoods."

The changes in these zoning regulations are evident in the growing number of apartment complexes near Manhattan Avenue and the relatively unchanged residential areas farther away from campus.

To assist developers working through this process, the department commissioned a Neighborhood Index to "assess the character of the neighborhood." Using 2000 U.S. Census data, the index broke down characteristics of the residents of each neighborhood. This included the percentage of family households, percentage of owner-occupied households, percentage of single-family structures and percentage of the population under 18. The index will be updated again this summer, Moeller said.

John Irvine, a local real estate broker, previously contracted one 14-unit apartment and said he would be contracting at another site this year. The zoning changes have made all the difference, he said.

"It really enabled developers like myself the ability to develop nice properties," he said.

Painting Powercats



Ian Briggs, freshman in mechanical engineering, paints a Powercat on the wall of the 6th floor lobby of Marlatt Hall this week. The all-male hall will become coed in the fall.

Lisle Alderton
COLLEGIAN

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Student uses childhood disease as motivation for career

By Danielle Moccia
KANSAS STATE COLLEGIAN

After noticing the limp in Natalie Wilgers' stride, strangers and acquaintances alike often ask if she hurt her ankle. Some even go as far as suggesting she take the elevator instead of the stairs. When this happens, she usually smiles politely and shrugs in agreement, not wanting to make a fuss.

What those strangers do not know is that Wilgers, sophomore in kinesiology, acquired her trademark left-footed limp as a result of a disease in her childhood that had doctors convinced she would not live to graduate from high school.

However, since she said it would her take too long to explain that to every single person who asks, she just keeps quiet.

One morning in November 1998, Wilgers woke up with a tingling sensation in both her left hand and foot. She told her mother, who assured her that the sleepy sensation in her limbs would go away that morning, and went to Linn Elementary School in Linn, Kan., about 15 minutes away from the family's house in Palmer, Kan.

The sensation did not go away.

It worsened during the next month and a half, rendering Wilgers, who was in fourth grade at the time, incapable of doing everyday tasks. When she was in one of her worst states, she secretly paid her 6-year-old sister Miranda a quarter every day to tie her shoes for her.

"It just got to the point where I didn't say anything about it anymore because I didn't want anyone to have to worry about me – I accepted it," she said. "When it started getting worse, everyone just told me that it would go away, but they didn't know any different – they just thought that I'd hurt myself or something."

She was given a knee brace and later an ankle brace, assured by her doctor that she had just pinched a nerve or hurt herself. Hardly able to walk or grab

onto anything, the unmistakable severity of Wilgers' condition was evident on Dec. 31, 1998. Her family was at a New Year's Eve party when her parents decided to take her to the emergency room, where she was given a slew of blood tests and X-rays.

Finally, after performing a CT scan, the unexpected became a reality: 9-year-old Natalie had a mass on the right side of her brain.

"I think I fell against the doorway, and we were just kind of in shock," said Sharon Wilgers, Natalie's mother.

She said the worst part was "not knowing what was going to happen."

"You get that dumped on you, and 10 minutes later you're leaving the hospital," Sharon said.

Concerned that the mass in their daughter's brain might be cancer, the Wilgers immediately drove to St. Elizabeth's Hospital in Lincoln, Neb. The drive, which took longer than the two hours it usually would have because of a sleeting snowstorm, took a toll on the already anxious family.

"We were all just literally sick by the time we got there," Sharon said.

After several tests and an MRI at St. Elizabeth's, Wilgers was scheduled to undergo surgery Jan. 4, 1998.

After she was moved from the surgery room after the procedure, a doctor came into Wilgers' room, where she was with her family, and ripped the bandage off Wilgers' half-shaved head, saying, "Oh, yeah, it's cancer. It's cancer."

"I didn't understand what that meant," Wilgers said. "I just remember that my mom started crying, and my dad had a tear in his eye, and so I just started crying, like, 'What's going on?'"

Wilgers left the hospital using a three-point cane. After seeing her older sister walking with it, Miranda asked her if she was really going to use a cane.

"She didn't touch that cane again," Sharon said. "I just think

she had sheer determination throughout the whole thing not to be different."

Wilgers started doing physical therapy in Washington, Kan., the morning after her surgery. Going to physical therapy three days a week for three months helped her recover 100 percent of the strength she lost in her left hand, and 75 percent of the strength she lost in her left foot.

From February to August 1999, after enduring three different diagnoses – cancer, brain disease, an arteriovenous malformation – doctors told the Wilgerses that Natalie would not live to graduate from high school.

"It was a roller coaster – you're high one minute, and you're just drug down the next," Sharon said.

Wilgers' teachers were also concerned.

"At that time, I knew that Natalie was very intelligent, had a lot of potential – I just feared that ... she wouldn't get to pursue her dreams. That was a big concern of mine," said Andrea Woltje, Wilgers' teacher at the time.

Woltje described her student as outgoing, polite and thoughtful.

The final diagnosis for Wilgers turned out to be factor V leiden, a blood disorder that causes blood to thicken, though it was also thought the tumor might have been caused by a stroke.

Though it was confirmed that Natalie would live a normal and healthy life, she was told she would not be able to play sports or live a very active lifestyle.

"Natalie still went out for sports and didn't let [the disorder] get in the way of what she wanted to do. ... Sometimes she had trouble doing certain things, but she would be the last one to ever complain about something like that," said Dana Oehmeke, sophomore in family studies and human services and Wilgers' close friend and roommate.

"I didn't refrain from trying," Wilgers said. "I played basketball and volleyball in junior high, and volleyball and track in



Lisle Alderton | COLLEGIAN

Natalie Wilgers, sophomore in kinesiology, was once told by doctors she would not live to graduate from high school while battling a life-threatening disease. Inspired by her experience, Wilgers plans to become a physical therapist.

high school. Most of the time I sucked, but whatever – I did it."

Not only did she graduate from high school, contrary to doctors' early predictions, but she was valedictorian of her class and now attends K-State on several academic scholarships.

"She tries hard, she pushes herself to do well," Sharon said. "So she's had brain surgery – to have gone through all of that, she never said, 'I can't.'"

Wilgers said she plans to earn her doctoral degree in phys-

ical therapy and hopefully move back to her hometown to get a job with the physical therapist who used to help her.

"It's just crazy how I think about walking normally would make me the happiest person ever, and most people don't realize that," said Wilgers, who said she is interested in working with children, stroke victims and people with sports-related injuries. "I just want to be a physical therapist to help people in the way I was helped."

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BREAK | Students say they look forward to more time off for Thanksgiving holiday

Continued from Page 1

16-week semesters totaling 150 instructional days plus five final exam days each semester.”

Several changes were made to accommodate a full week of Thanksgiving break.

Fall break, a student holiday designated as the first Monday of October, will be removed from the schedule. One day in the fall semester will also be shifted to the spring semester to maintain the 150 required instructional days.

Monty Nielsen, university registrar and chair of the calendar committee, said positive changes would result from a full

week of Thanksgiving break.

“It will allow students who live outside of Kansas to travel home and use that full week to have an enjoyable holiday break,” he said. “It also allows for a comprehensive break before a very stressful time – finals week.”

D.J. Bolerjack, freshman in open option and out-of-state student, said he likes the idea of a longer Thanksgiving break.

“Whether you are an out-of-state or instate student, missing that one day and adding a few more to Thanksgiving break would be a lot more rewarding than that four-day period you would have otherwise,” he said.

HYDRANTS | Official cautions commuters to beware of dangerous, high-pressure water

Continued from Page 1

Francis said one of the precautions people can take with flowing hydrants is to avoid the stream of water while driving, as the pressure might damage the car. Francis also recommended that pedestrians and bicyclists move around the flowing hydrant because the water moves fast enough to knock people down.

Francis said residents might experience rusty water in their homes after the fire department flows the hydrants because water flowing through pipes can break rust loose.

If residents experience rusty water in their homes, they should run the water for a few minutes. If the water discoloration continues, they can call the City of Manhattan Customer Service at 785-587-2480.

HOMELESS | Local citizens hope for change in government’s definition to achieve more funds

Continued from Page 1

federal government technically considers you housed at that point,” Chapman-Semple said. “But the reality is that family is still seeking emergency services. They’re still technically homeless.”

Chapman-Semple said an adaption of the government’s definition of homelessness is necessary to help determine how much federal funding local aid programs like Section 8, a housing subsidies program, and the Public Housing Authority can receive.

Melisa Posey is a single mother who has been living in Section 8 housing for two years.

She said adaptations to government definitions should be a bottom-up process to include input from people directly affected by such programs.

“Too often we’re dismissed as uneducated, lazy, poor and ignorant,” Posey said. “This is a popular misconception of people who seek government assistance. Any changes are going to have a profound impact on those individuals and families. They have to go to these people and listen to their voices.”

Posey, junior in pre-law and women’s studies, said she is appreciative of Section 8.

“It is what allows me to be a student in school and do what I want with my life. I do want to be in school right now, it’s something I’m extremely passionate about,” she said.

The Section 8 voucher program increases affordable housing choices for extremely low-income households by allowing families to choose privately owned rental housing, according to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Brice Ebert, owner of Alliance Property Management, is working with the emergency shelter to place qualified families and individuals in 10 Alliance units.

While Ebert acknowledged the significance of permanent housing, he said he is still a businessman.

“By doing this, we can get several properties rented,” he said. “Section 8 is a supplemental rent payment. So if the rent is \$800, the shelter would cover \$700, and [the tenants] would be responsible for \$100.”

Money from a Homeless Prevention Fund, which President Barack Obama established earlier this year, gave the emergency shelter the power to seriously negotiate with landlords for the first time.

“We have money, and we have tenants. And [landlords] need tenants and want money, so it seems like a natural fit,” Chapman-Semple said.

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THREE-BEDROOM 2436 Hobbs. Near campus. Washer/ Dryer, dishwasher, garage, backyard. Pets allowed. \$1125 Call 630-776-4682 or email jess412@gmail.com.

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TWO-BEDROOM HOUSE with washer/ dryer. Off-street parking, great location. \$700/ month. 785-537-7597 or 785-410-4783.

TWO-BEDROOM and three-bedroom, stove, refrigerator, washer/ dryer, one block to KSU. Available June 1 and August 1. 785-537-7597 or 785-313-4502.

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120
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WALKING DISTANCE to campus. Newer four-bedroom, two bathroom. No pets, washer/ dryer. \$1100/ month. 785-539-9800, 785-556-0662, irvinefamily@sbcglobal.net

145
Roommate Wanted

930 LARAMIE four-bedroom two bath. \$400/ room, pets welcome. Walking distance to Aggieville and campus contact 316-734-3472 for more info.

FEMALE ROOMMATE needed for five-bedroom house close to campus. One-bedroom available. \$350/ month plus utilities. Available August. 913-244-9360.

FEMALE ROOMMATE wanted, August 1. Two-bedrooms, one bath, close to KSU campus. Monthly rent: \$336.50 plus utilities. No pets. Email: anniep4206@yahoo.com.

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310
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310
Help Wanted

ADVERTISING DESIGN/ production positions available at Student Publications Inc. for the Kansas State Collegian for fall 2009. If you are creative, are a team player but work well on your own, too, we want you. Prefer at least a semester commitment. Minimum wage to start. Position begins approximately August 10 with training day and some work hours prior to start classes. There is opportunity for advancement. Opportunity to earn class credit is also possible. Scheduled work hours will be planned around your class schedule Monday- Friday 8- 5 and you will have the convenience of an on-campus job. Applications will be accepted until positions are filled. Fall 2009 class schedule must be submitted with application. Applications can be picked up in 113 Kedzie or email wallen@ksu.edu for a PDF file or for any other questions.

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SUMMER HELP: Packers and loaders. L&L Van Lines, Inc. Junction City or Wichita. 1-800-467-1441. Must be 18 years or older.

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Answer to the last Sudoku.

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GRADUATION GUIDE

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gratz!

Page 4:
—Ceremony schedule
—What to wear

Page 5:
—Job tips



All Grown Up

Congratulations Graduates!

 <p>KSU Class of '09</p> <p>Samantha Samich</p> <p>Keep your cell phone charged, wear your seatbelt, take your vitamins, don't run around by yourself and don't forget to say your prayers. You're a big girl now! Love ya, Mom, Art and Colton</p>	 <p>KSU Class of '09</p> <p>Salena Strate</p> <p>We are so proud of you. Congratulations! Love, Mom, Dad, Samantha and Reed</p>	 <p>KSU Class of '09</p> <p>Ashley Rose Klein</p> <p>Congratulations on a job well done! We love you! Best of luck, Mom, Dad & Christina</p>	 <p>KSU Class of '09</p> <p>Michael Petro</p> <p>History in the making. Congratulations. Love, Sarah</p>	 <p>KSU Class of '09</p> <p>WD Chance Cantillon</p> <p>FINALLY! The tassel's worth the hassle. Love you boy, Mom, Taylor, Grandma & Grandpa</p>	 <p>KSU Class of '09</p> <p>Gina Andrews</p> <p>Every day you make us proud! Your hard work has paid off! Congratulations! Love, Mom, Dad and Lora</p>
 <p>KSU Class of '09</p> <p>Brandi Lynn Buzzard</p> <p>Congratulations on all your accomplishments! We are so very proud of you! Love, Mom, Mike, Brice & Kristy</p>	 <p>KSU Class of '09</p> <p>Dillon Karlix</p> <p>We always knew you would accomplish whatever you set your sights on! Way to go! Love, Mom, Dad, Kierston & Troy</p>	 <p>KSU Class of '09</p> <p>Theresa Lein Stepan</p> <p>Well LPE You have graduated and I am very proud of you. Love Always, Dad</p>	 <p>KSU Class of '09</p> <p>Kactus Kelly</p> <p>We are proud of you! We couldn't have asked for a better daughter. Love you very much, Mom, Dad & Canyon</p>	 <p>KSU Class of '09</p> <p>Rebecca Guilfoyle</p> <p>Congratulations on a job well done!! We are very proud of you!! Love, Mom, Dad, Rachel, Brian</p>	 <p>KSU Class of '09</p> <p>Eric Holderness</p> <p>Done in Four! You continue to make us proud. Go State! Love, Mom, Dad, and Audrey</p>
 <p>KSU Class of '09</p> <p>Krista Bachamp</p> <p>Always a Wildcat! We are very proud of all your accomplishments. Love, Mom, Dad, Cole and Kyle</p>	 <p>KSU Class of '09</p> <p>Lauren Hibbard</p> <p>Way to Go! We love you! -The crew</p>	 <p>KSU Class of '09</p> <p>A. Tristan Trupka</p> <p>You cannot go farther than our love! We are so proud of you! Love, Mom, Dad, Brittany and Doug</p>			
 <p>KSU Class of '09</p> <p>Jennifer Akemi Mayekawa</p> <p>Congratulacion! Has terminado! We are so proud of all your accomplishments. Always, Dad, Mom, Brett, Grandpa, Grandma and Auntie Sharon</p>	 <p>KSU Class of '09</p> <p>Laura Irwin</p> <p>Congratulations on your accomplishments. We are very proud of you. Love, Mom and Dad, Rob and Chelsea</p>	 <p>KSU Class of '09</p> <p>Allison Hadley</p> <p>Congratulations! We are so very proud of you. Love, Mom and Dad</p>			
 <p>KSU Class of '09</p> <p>Alissa Marie Millard</p> <p>You made it through! Way to go! I am so very proud of you. Love always, MOM</p>	 <p>KSU Class of '09</p> <p>Meghan Elisabeth Newman</p> <p>Words cannot express how proud we are of you and all you have accomplished. Love, Mom, Dad, Matthew and Grandpa</p>	 <p>KSU Class of '09</p> <p>Rebecca Carol Moore</p> <p>Four Years and Out! We are so proud of our family's first Wildcat. With much love, Mom & Dad</p>			
 <p>KSU Class of '09</p> <p>Lawrence Michael Oeding</p> <p>Congratulations, you made it, we are so proud of you and love you very much. Love, Mom, Dad & Meghan</p>	 <p>KSU Class of '09</p> <p>Kelly Marie Kokoruda</p> <p>Congratulations, Kelly! We love you! Mom & Dad, Chris & Nyana, Brian & Erika</p>	 <p>KSU Class of '09</p> <p>Taylor Boone Symons</p> <p>"DINO-mite!" You've always been our winner! We are so proud of you. Love, Mom and Dad</p>			



All Grown Up

Congratulations Graduates!

 <p>KSU Class of '09</p> <p>Carolyn Schlager Congratulations, Baby Girl! We are so proud of you. Love, Mom and Dad</p>	 <p>KSU Class of '09</p> <p>Devin Schwartz May 2009 Major Economics Minor Business Love your Family</p>	 <p>KSU Class of '09</p> <p>Chelsey Skoch All your hard work has paid off. You have a wonderful career ahead of you. Congratulations! Love Always, Your Family</p>	 <p>KSU Class of '09</p> <p>Claire Elizabeth Schrott Congratulations! Follow your heart and live your dreams. We are so proud of you. Fly with Christ! Love, Mom & Dad</p>	 <p>KSU Class of '09</p> <p>Nicholas Paul Riling From your first day of school, to your last, I have always been proud of you! I Love You, Mom</p>	 <p>KSU Class of '09</p> <p>Chelsea Leigh Hall To our baby "Spike," You've grown up so fast! We're so proud of you! Congrats! Love, Mom, Dad & Sisters</p>
 <p>KSU Class of '09</p> <p>Haley Noel Krause Your hard work and determination has paid off. We are so proud of you! Love, Mom and Dad</p>	 <p>KSU Class of '09</p> <p>Jerod Struthers You make us proud. Congratulations from all of us! Dad, Mom, & the Rising Cross crew</p>	 <p>KSU Class of '09</p> <p>Kara Brianne Micketto Make the most of every day and celebrate all that you are! Congratulations on your accomplishments. Love, Mom and Dad</p>	<p>Congrats Spring & Summer Graduates!</p> <p> <i>from Student Publications</i></p>		 <p>KSU Class of '09</p> <p>Aimee Creek Great Job! Love You, Dad</p>
 <p>KSU Class of '09</p> <p>Dylan Wight Evans Congratulations! We are very proud of you. Best of luck always! Love, Dad, Mom, Megan & Kate</p>	 <p>KSU Class of '09</p> <p>Casey Alan Leis We are proud of you and all your accomplishments! All of your studying and hard work has paid off! Love, Mom, Dad, Cody & Cole</p>	 <p>KSU Class of '09</p> <p>Shannon Renee Connolly We couldn't be more proud of you . . . Dad, Mom, Taylor, Grandma & Winston</p>			
 <p>KSU Class of '09</p> <p>Madison Loeb Congratulations on all your accomplishments. You have always been "on the ball." Love, Dad and Ada</p>	 <p>KSU Class of '09</p> <p>Austin Alan Pfannenstiel Congratulations! You deserve the best. You have a bright future ahead. Be happy! Love you, Grandma Penny</p>	 <p>KSU Class of '09</p> <p>Wallace McCammon Stromberg Congratulations, Wallace! We are extremely proud of all your accomplishments. You are an exceptional young man. Love, Mom & Dad</p>			
 <p>KSU Class of '09</p> <p>Andrew Kerns Congratulations! We are very proud of you! Good Luck, Dr. Kerns! Go IU! Love, Mom, Dad, Mallory, and Brian</p>	 <p>KSU Class of '09</p> <p>Matthew James Hewitt May your first steps into the world of Finance be as successful as your first steps in life. Love, Dad, Mom and Emily</p>	 <div><p>Westchester Park APARTMENT RESIDENCES</p><p>Tranquil Location. Thoughtful Design. Sensible Choice.</p><ul style="list-style-type: none">• New GE Appliances in 2008• Two Swimming Pools• 24-Hour Fitness Center• Responsive 24-Hour Emergency Staff<p>Visit us Today for Summer and Fall Leasing!</p><p>776-1118 Off Kimball and Candlewood Dr. www.WestchesterParkApts.com</p></div>			

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May 2009 commencement schedule

K-State graduation is scheduled for May 15 and 16. The class of 2009 is the 142nd class to graduate from K-State since the first class in 1867. Nearly 2,300 degrees will be awarded to K-State students, including distance students and graduates from K-State-Salina.

According to K-State Media Relations, about 1,900 people will receive bachelor's degrees, 210 master's degrees, 140 doctoral degrees and 50 associate degrees. Nearly 60 students will receive multiple degrees, and more than 90 students are earning their degrees through K-State's distance education programs.

MAY 15
1 p.m. in Bramlage Coliseum – The Graduate School will begin commencement activities. Roger McHaney, K-State professor of management and university distinguished teaching scholar, will be the speaker.
3:30 p.m. in McCain Auditorium – The College of Veterinary Medicine will begin commencement. Bo Brock, veterinarian and owner of the Brock Veterinary Clinic In Lamesa, Texas, will be the speaker.

MAY 16
8:30 a.m. in Bramlage Coliseum – Commencement will begin for the College of Arts and Sciences. Bill Snyder, K-State's head football coach, will be the speaker.
10 a.m. in McCain Auditorium – Commencement will begin for the College of Architecture, Planning and Design. Rick Martin, managing senior principal with Populous – a Kansas City, Mo.-based design firm – will be the speaker.
11 a.m. in Bramlage Coliseum – Commencement will begin for the College of Education. Janice Wissman, associate dean of the College of Education and professor of secondary education, will be the speaker.
12:30 p.m. in Bramlage Coliseum – Commencement will begin for the College of Business Administration. Duane Cantrell, former president of Payless ShoeSource, will be the speaker.
2:15 p.m. in Bramlage Coliseum – Commencement will begin for the College of Agriculture. Anne Hazlett, director of the Indiana Department of Agriculture, will be the speaker.
4:15 p.m. in Bramlage Coliseum – Commencement will begin for the College of Human Ecology. Denis Medieros, associate dean of the K-State College of Human Ecology and head of the human nutrition department, will be the speaker.
6:15 p.m. in Bramlage Coliseum – Commencement will begin for the College of Engineering. Warren Staley, former CEO of Cargill Inc. of Minneapolis, will be the speaker.

Videotapes of the ceremonies can be ordered through the K-State Student Union Bookstore by calling 1-800-KSU-CATS or 785-532-6583.

—Compiled by Jenene Heavey

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CONGRATULATIONS CLASS OF 2009!

FROM Lee's Western Wear

Under there

Tips for what to wear on graduation day

As graduation approaches, there is probably a lot of anxiety about your future. However, graduation is a time to celebrate your accomplishments and make the transition into the real world.

The cap and gown make you look like a graduate, but what you wear underneath is almost as important. When picking out an outfit to wear for graduation, remember modesty and personality.

Ladies should choose an outfit that makes you feel the most comfortable and the most confident. But by no means should you wear a skimpy top or sweats.

Avoid clothes that are too trendy. Often, wedding pictures from the 1980s make it obvious when the wedding was. You don't want to wear something so trendy that it dates you. Wear classic pieces like a sundress or an A-line skirt and a nice blouse.

A woman has many best friends, and modesty is one of them. Do not wear low-cut tops or short skirts or dresses. Basic rule of thumb: if you would wear it to the bars or to a party, do not wear it for graduation.

Wear an outfit that flatters your figure. There is no reason that on one of the most important days of your life you should not look your best.

For the guys, I know getting dressed is not nearly as complicated for you as it is for women. Consider yourselves lucky. Nevertheless, that does not imply that you should roll out of bed, put on a shirt and pants, and walk out the door.

For an occasion like graduation, get a haircut and shave. Wear a nice pair of khakis or dress pants and a nice button-



JESSIE DOWELL



Nathaniel LaRue | COLLEGIAN

In order to look appropriate for graduation, choose an outfit to wear underneath your gown that is professional but still expresses your personality.

down shirt with a tie or a polo.

For both sexes, dress like a college graduate – not like a college student. You have persevered through four – or more – vigorous years of higher education, and graduation is the best time to start looking like it. If you have tattoos or any adventurous public piercings, cover them up.

Also, dress accordingly for the weather. Knowing Kansas, you should expect the unexpected. Just in case, bring a jacket or a change of shoes. When choosing a color, wear what makes you happy. If that means wearing K-State colors or your favorite col-

or, which should be purple by now anyway, wear it.

Remember, your parents will show off the pictures taken on this day for the rest of your life. Do not wear a cheesy T-shirt or jeans with holes in them.

Wear something that will make your parents proud of the fact their child just graduated college. Don't disappoint them.

Congratulations to all the 2009 graduates!

Jessie Dowell is a sophomore in apparel and textiles. Please send comments to edge@spub.ksu.edu.

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Kansas State University
Division of Continuing Education

CES provides tips for job hunting in current economy



COLLEGIAN FILE PHOTO
Candice Nelson, former K-State student, talks with a representative about the Disney College Program at the 2007 All-University Career Fair.

By **Jacie Noel**
KANSAS STATE COLLEGIAN

With the current economic situation, graduating seniors might be wondering what to do to get a job. K-State Career and Employment Services director Kerri Day Keller gave some tips for graduating seniors as they go out to find jobs.

MAKE SURE RÉSUMÉS ARE FLAWLESS.

Résumés should be impeccable and emphasize accomplishments from the classroom, extracurricular activities, internships, part-time employment or other experiences.

“Job seekers should provide specific examples and the results of their college career experiences,” Keller said.

NETWORK, NETWORK, NETWORK.

“According to a recent survey, nearly one-third of jobs are filled by referrals,” Keller said. “You get jobs by talking to people.”

Talking to friends, family members or professors is a way to start making connections with those who can get someone the job they want.

“It’s in those ‘knowing someone who knows someone else’ levels that hiring breakthroughs happen,” she said.

IDENTIFY YOUR JOB TARGETS.

Keller said students should identify someone who has been in the job they want. Students should be clearer about their job targets and what they want to do with their degrees. She said CES and the Academic and Career Informa-

tion Center at K-State are good places for students to go for help to figure out career options.

YOU MUST REMAIN PERSISTENT.

“Students have to acknowledge that they are in a different situation right now,” Keller said. “It’s not going to be as easy for them to get jobs like in the past, but they need to keep at it.”

DON’T TAKE THINGS PERSONALLY.

Keller said students come in asking that the odds are not in their favor at the moment.

“Graduating seniors will just have to work a little bit smarter and harder than students in the past have,” she said. “In some ways, that could pay off down the road.”

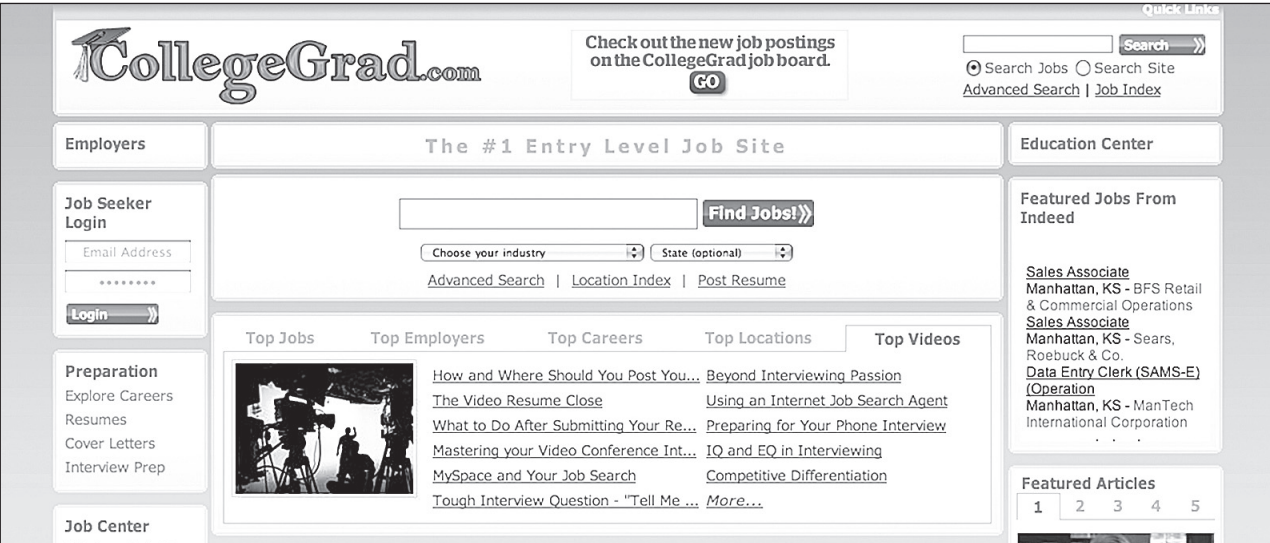
DON’T LET FEAR HALT YOUR SEARCH.

Students should take care of themselves by still getting exercise and plenty of sleep and should talk about concerns with friends and family. Students should also be open to experiences that might not be part of their original plan.

“Luck is where hard work and opportunity meet,” Keller said.

CES is available to seniors up to a year after they receive their degrees. The office is also available during the summer and can be contacted by phone or e-mail if students are not around Manhattan, Keller said. Graduating students can keep their CES accounts activated through the K-State Alumni Association to stay in contact with services.

Work and the World Wide Web



Internet features many sites for finding jobs

Internet search engines for job hunting are like weeds; too many to count.

The Collegian offers our 2009 graduates the top four, providing the most relevant, hassle-free navigation in job shopping available on the Web. There are many job sites, but you will find different features at each one. We have found some more reliable than others.

1. **CollegeGrad.com** – This Web site displays entry-level jobs, ranked No. 1 for entry-level jobs by Yahoo, Alexa and TopJobsites.

There are more than 20,000 job postings. Other features include 10,000 employer contacts, 180 résumé templates, 350 detailed career descriptions and salary information for more than 1,000 occupations.

Other benefits include a list of top 328 entry-level employers with the top three listed as Verizon Wireless, Enterprise Rent-a-Car and the Internal Revenue Service.

The predicted number of entry-level new hires the companies take is also listed. For example, Verizon Wireless expects to hire a projected 13,198 entry-level positions for its company. Clicking the link to an employer on this page takes you to a detailed description of the company and the qualities and skills the company is looking for and links to its home page.

Collegegrad.com also features one-minute teaching seminars covering résumé and interview videos, interview questions, Internet job searches, cover letters and job fairs.

2. **Monster.com** – This site has more than 1 million job postings. The home page of *Monster.com* has a easy-to-use navigation tool bar where you can seek résumés, jobs, career tools and advice for job-hunting strategy and career development.

In the career tools section, a one-of-a-kind career mapping tool helps you explore the job market like a “choose-your-own” adventure book.

You pick an interest and *Monster.com* shows you the three most common pathways into a particular job market. This helps a new grad visualize a starting place with more room to grow into with experience.

Monster.com also tracks where you can find jobs through government stimulus money, as well as tips

for those affected by the recession who have been laid off.

A job snapshot will give you an idea of the number of jobs posted to a particular type, rate of growth in percent, size of the industry and projected growth.

3. **HotJobs.com** – This site’s navigation can be a little confusing. The site is riddled with advertising, and at times, it is hard to identify information from a link to a paid sponsor’s Web site. However, the information is there if you have the time to look.

The best feature *HotJobs.com* offers is the option to search by job category where you choose an industry or job type – a time-saver, indeed.

In the same section, you can click to view top searches and the top 100 companies, updated quarterly. The top three employers listed on *HotJobs.com* are Tenet Healthcare Corp., Army National Guard and Kaiser Permanente. Top job categories and locations for the best job outlook are also available.

Career tools include résumé, networking and salary information. Featured career articles, get-the-job basics and credit score information is also available on the main page.

4. **CareerBuilder.com** – This site shows more than 300,000 jobs for more than 25,000 employers. *Careerbuilder.com* is a friendly site to newcomers, offering an intro link on how to use the site. Its setup is similar to *Monster.com* in construction, but has the largest wealth of career resources, advice, research articles, videos, networking and skill-building information found out of the four sites the Collegian reviewed.

A job seeker tool kit, essentially a diagnostic instrument to help your résumé become more visible on the site, walks you through your job search dilemmas. Some include “Employers aren’t calling?” and “Applying for jobs takes too long.” Another well-liked feature not seen elsewhere was a link for freelance/contract work.

Careerbuilder.com states that 80 percent of employers will run a background check on employees. The site offers to check civil and criminal records as well as address, education and employment so you can be more confident in your big interview.

Career guidelines that can be applied to your job search:

1. Make smart career choices. Remember to do the necessary research on the job or career field that you are considering. Again, talk to people such as alumni, parents, professors and the college career office. All of these sources are important in helping you learn as much as possible about your future career. This is the number one graduate career advice goal! Be sure to take it seriously.

2. Do not get your heart set on working for a multinational company. These bigger companies receive hundreds of résumés a day, and yours may get caught up in the paperwork. Try to apply for jobs at smaller companies of 100 employees or less. Hopefully, this will allow you to at least secure an interview.

3. Use other means besides the Internet. Even though the Internet and job search engines are a great place to find jobs, do not let this be your sole means. The number one way to find a job is by networking. Talk to as many people as possible, preferably those in your career field.

4. Make sure you are sending your résumé to the appropriate person. Try to avoid sending résumés out to general human resource addresses. If at all possible, send your résumé directly to the hiring manager.

5. Proofread, Proofread, Proofread. Never send out your résumé with any mistakes on it. This is a sure-fire way to get your résumé tossed out before you even get a chance to interview.

6. Be prepared for the interview. Employers are making quick decisions due to an immediate need for employees. Be prepared for every question, and remember to use proper interview etiquette. Also, do not forget to bring extra résumés.

—Compiled by Jenene Heavey

—CollegeGrad.com



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A. “A new chapter in life, really.”
Brent Riffel
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IN FINANCE



A. “To me it means freedom.”
Cody Graham
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A. “It’s bitter-sweet; I think I’m ready to leave college, but I’m not ready to be in the real world yet.”
Kara Micketto
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A. “For me it means freedom to do whatever I want to do.”
Michele Featherston
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—Compiled by Tim Schrag

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Senior’s reflections offer advice to grads, students

At the culmination of their graduation, many students wonder if they changed since they entered college. Unless you’re a robot, you’ve probably changed during your college career – the real question is whether it was for the better.

Did you spend too much time at the bars or liquor store, or did you do the opposite – spend too much time in the Hale Library 24-hour study area? Do you have more friends or less; are they closer friends? Did you gain knowledge you can use in your career field and throughout your life? Are you more confident in yourself? Your abilities?

Every student should ponder these questions and a slew of others when they graduate. With all the classes, jobs and social extracurricular activities, students don’t have time to look inward.

This is not an easy process, as most of who we are is shaped by our peers and families and *Facebook.com* profile “about me” sections. Here are some tips to keep in mind while looking back on what you have truly learned during college – this does not just apply to seniors.



SCOTT GIRARD

er time in your life when you will be so close to so many people your age, most students pay to go to college for an education. It’s not hard to balance the two. Go to most of your classes and study as much as you need to for tests. If you pay attention in class, the need to study severely decreases. When not doing this, spend time with friends, significant others and do a little drinking and partying. But try to keep the heavy partying to the weekends.

3. Staying exclusively in Manhattan throughout college might not have made you a better person.

It’s hard to learn much about yourself when you live in the same environment and do the same activities on a regular basis. By getting internships and studying abroad, students broaden their perspectives on life and learn much about themselves by interacting with different people.

In my case, I spent two summer internships away from Manhattan – one in Lawrence and the other in Washington, D.C. Each summer, I met different people and learned more about my abilities – or lack thereof – and character in a new life setting.

4. Don’t view college as the best time of your life.

I’ve had so many people tell me that college was the best time of their lives, so enjoy it. Great, I’m not ready to say that yet.

When I’m 60 and have lived most of my life, my college experiences probably will be toward the top, if not the top, of my favorite memories.

For now though, I’d like to think I will create better memories than those I have gained over the past four years. If I already lived the best moments of my life, why should I even try any more?

In parting, I would like to share a quote from someone I certainly do not see eye-to-eye with, but he makes a statement that stretches across all political ideologies and personal beliefs.

“There is a good reason they call these ceremonies ‘commencement exercises.’ Graduation is not the end; it’s the beginning.” – Sen. Orrin Hatch, R-Utah.

Scott Girard is a senior in print journalism. Please send comments to opinion@spub.ksu.edu.

Editor looks back on experiences

I feel truly blessed for the opportunities I’ve been given at K-State. I am who I am today because of my education. At K-State I’ve opened my eyes to how big the world is – there are so many people with their own interesting stories.

My story has been and continues to be one of blessings in the form of countless great friends and acquaintances and opportunities to get involved like never before.

I started my college career as a lazy freshman who didn’t want to get involved, and I didn’t. I limited myself to classes and manual labor jobs for the first two years. As a junior, a professor encouraged me to work here at the Collegian. From there I got busier, more involved. That decision was the primary factor contributing to my success here at K-State.

The first time one of my stories ran on the front page, I thought, “Wow, people are reading what I have to say today.” That was enough to get me addicted to telling stories. It led to more lead packages and important stories. At the end of the semester I had put about eight weeks into the Collegian. From there I became the metropolitan editor, which landed me a position on Lydia Peele’s cabinet for the next year. From there I networked with dozens of the more involved movers and shakers at K-State and in the Manhattan community.

At any other university it might have been different. Professors and ad-



BRANDON STEINERT

ministration might have viewed me as a dollar sign with hands and feet, but here I was encouraged to get involved and broaden my horizons.

That being said, my advice to all incoming freshmen and returning sophomores, get your feet wet. Step outside your comfort zone. If you don’t, you won’t get what you want out of this education. College is more than school, classes and homework. This is a living, breathing community where you can practice your life skills, so go do something because only going to classes will not result in a well-rounded and complete education.

My only regret is waiting so long to get involved.

So now I’m leaving K-State and hitting a big “reset” button on my life – starting in a new, more competitive environment in Kansas City. I’ll be sharing this experience with my fiancée, who will become my wife June 6.

I’ll always remember K-State as the place that molded me into who I am now and will be for the rest of my life. I won’t forget the great things that have happened to me here nor the great people who had a significant influence on me.

To those who encouraged me to do more than I wanted and wouldn’t let me let me fail, to those who guided me in the right direction, to those who made sure I didn’t take life too seriously, to those who told me I have a future and took the time to show me how and why – thank you, I love you, goodbye.

Brandon Steinert is a senior in print journalism. Please send comments to opinion@spub.ksu.edu.



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Grads have volunteer options when jobs are hard to find

“And so, my fellow Americans: ask not what your country can do for you – ask what you can do for your country.”

When John F. Kennedy uttered these famous words during his 1961 inaugural address, I don’t think recent college graduates desperate for a job were what he had in mind, but today it’s what we have to offer.

Talking to friends, co-workers and classmates, it is not difficult to realize how tough the job market is right now. It seems as though about 90 percent of soon-to-be graduates are still searching. This is where JFK comes in. Instead of scouring Web sites like *Jobfinder.com*, I would like to suggest that seniors turn to sites like *Americorps.gov* and *Peacecorps.gov*. These are the Web sites of volunteer organizations that are a great starting point for college graduates.

AmeriCorps is similar to the Peace Corps, in that it is a full-time volunteer program, but it is a domestic program, so corps members serve somewhere in the U.S. instead of a foreign country. The program is also not as long of a time com-



MOIRA NIEBAUER

mitment. Many programs are about a year long, but there are also summer and six-month programs.

Though it is a volunteer organization, most programs provide a living stipend, and every AmeriCorps member who completes a year of service receives \$4,725 in educational grant money to put toward college tuition or paying back loans.

I joined AmeriCorps the year after I graduated from high school because I was unsure of where I wanted to go to college. It was the most rewarding, influential and educational year of my life.

When I served in the AmeriCorps, I moved to San Jose, Calif., and worked in an elementary school tutoring children, running the after-school program, monitoring recess and helping teachers. I worked for an education-based program called City Year, which I would recommend to anyone, especially those interested in education.

There are many different types of service a person can do with AmeriCorps. In fact, think of any big nonprofit organization like Habitat for Humanity or Big Brothers Big Sisters, and there are probably AmeriCorps members working for them. An additional benefit is AmeriCorps can often lead to other job opportunities.

My best friend served as a Big Sister in the Big Brothers Big Sisters program in Lawrence before graduating from KU in 2008. She then took the AmeriCorps position at this organization in Omaha, Neb., and she will continue working there as a full-time staff member after her corps year.

Peace Corps members serve 27 months in a foreign country. Like AmeriCorps, there is a huge range of service opportunities to choose from, including environment, food safety, HIV/AIDS, agriculture and information technology.

Peace Corps members also receive a stipend allowing them to live as members of the community they are serving, as well as about \$6,000 when they return to the U.S. to help with any readjustments to life at home, like moving or returning to school. Both AmeriCorps and the Peace Corps members can get loan deferments, so volunteers don’t have to pay back student loans during their time in service.

So if you’re still job searching, make JFK proud and check out doing a year or more of service. It is a fulfilling, invaluable experience. Plus, it looks great on a résumé.

Moira Niebauer is a senior in English and journalism. Please send comments to opinion@pub.ksu.edu.

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